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**KISSINGER DELAYS
HIS TRIP TO PEKING
TILL AFTER AUG. 15**

**U.S. Says Cambodia Rebels
Await Bombing Halt and
Will Not Negotiate**

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WASHINGTON, July 26 — Henry A. Kissinger has postponed his trip to Peking for talks on Cambodia and other subjects until after Aug. 15 — the date that American bombing of Cambodia scheduled to end — Administration officials said today.

They said that the Cambodian insurgents opposed to the Government of President Lon Nol had flatly refused to negotiate with Phnom Penh and that the Nixon Administration did not anticipate significant diplomatic progress before the Aug. 15 bombing cutoff.

"The Communists are waiting to see what happens when the bombs stop falling," one key official said. "They have to decide whether to go for a favorable political solution then, or to go for broke militarily."

Another official said that "it would be fruitless" for Mr. Kissinger, President Nixon's advisor on national security, to go to China early next month as he first planned, and try to talk about a Cambodian solution.

Scenario Advanced

Once the bombing stops, an official said, it may become apparent whether the Lon Nol Government can survive. He speculated that if Phnom Penh continued to hold out against the insurgent forces, the opposition might decide to seek a settlement through political means.

Before the cutoff of bombing was voted by Congress on June 29, Mr. Kissinger had intended to go to Peking early in August to discuss with Premier Chou En-lai the possibility of getting the various Cambodian factions to agree to a negotiated settlement.

In addition, Mr. Kissinger had indicated to several senators late last month that he was willing to meet with Prince

Norodom Sihanouk, the former Cambodian Chief of State, who heads a government in exile based in Peking and who is

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formally recognized by the insurgents fighting in Cambodia as the leader of the anti-Phnom Penh forces.

But Prince Sihanouk, who in February asked to see Mr. Kissinger during the presidential adviser's last trip to China, said early this month that he was no longer willing to meet with him.

He said in one interview that if he agreed to see him, the Nixon Administration might claim progress in negotiations and seek permission from Congress to continue bombing beyond the Aug. 15 cut off date.

To emphasize his refusal to meet, Prince Sihanouk left for North Korea and a three-week vacation last week.

His government in exile, as well as the insurgent forces in Cambodia, have issued statements in the last month flatly refusing to negotiate with Lon Nol. In their public statements they have called for "the liberation of Phnom Penh."

In addition to the departure of Prince Sihanouk from Peking, top Chinese leaders were reported busily preparing for a national Communist party congress, due to open next month.

Combination of Obstacles

These two factors—the refusal of Prince Sihanouk to meet with Mr. Kissinger and the workload of the top Chinese leaders—combined to persuade the Administration to put off the Kissinger visit until later in August at the earliest, officials said.

Administration officials also said that a considerable amount of energy had been expended in recent weeks trying to predict what would happen in Phnom Penh once the American bombing stopped.

Very Ineffective So Far

One senior official said "we get very conflicting reports." Some say that the situation is not grave for the Lon Nol Government, and others say that it is grave, he related. A key consideration, the official said, is how well the Cambodian Army performs when it is left to its own devices.

Up to now, its record has been very poor on the whole,

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he said. If it takes the initiative and is able to keep the lifelines to Phnom Penh open, it could create the conditions for a settlement, he continued.

In anticipation of the Aug. 15 deadline, the United States has been accelerating its supply of fuel and food to Phnom Penh and has sped military aid shipments.

"They have more than enough guns," one official said.

"The question is whether they have the will to fight."

It is widely assumed in the Administration, but not stated publicly, that a coalition government would result in the resignation of Lon Nol as President, and the probable return of Prince Sihanouk to Phnom Penh.